

Humboldt County Historical Society  
Interview with Mr. George A. Cochran  
805 "C" St., Eureka

Indexed by Jeanne Bost 8/7/88

Time: 50 minutes

- | <u>Index No.</u> | <u>Subject</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0.00 - 0.39      | Born at 6 <sup>th</sup> & "D" Sts., lived in Eureka 64 years at time of interview. Went to one-room schoolhouse (Whittier school) across street.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 0.40 - 0.90      | Mother born in Australia. Came to San Francisco at age 6; lived in Protrero District. At age 8 she moved to Eureka. Lived at Table Bluff. Father was engineer and blacksmith. Later moved to Eureka for more work and pay. Grandmother lived to be 96. Father came here in 1976; born in Peterboro, Ontario, Canada. |
| 0.91 - 1.40      | Father worked in D.R. Jones mill, then in Eureka in teaming and drayage business. Worked for his dad (George Cochran) in 1898. Started by driving 4 horse team, hauling wheat, oats & hay & tanbark from ranches.                                                                                                    |
| 1.42 - 1.70      | First railroads in California were logging railroads in Eureka. Ties and rails were poles, laid end-to-end. Remnants remain at Pigeon Point & Bayside, etc.                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1.73 - 2.40      | First Humboldt County Fair recalled. Also first encounter with circus on road to Ferndale where George saw elephant, bear, camel & monkeys. Circus came overland from San Francisco to Eureka. George worked carrying buckets of water to elephant.                                                                  |



Interview with Mr George A. Cochran cont'd.

Index No.

Subject

- 2.43 - 2.58 Eureka without water 2 days following big earthquake April 18, 1906. Water supply up Elk Creek via pumping station. Damaged station shut down water; took two days to repair.
- 2.60 - 2.79 Old Simpson's house left standing following quake at 6th St. between "B" & "C". Presently an old rooming house in disrepair.
- 2.80 - 2.96 Early waterfront described.  
(Here tape ends abruptly).